

Emissions of Greenhouse Gases in the United States 2005

Executive Summary

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Preface

Emissions of Greenhouse Gases in the United States 2005, was prepared under the general direction of John Conti, Director of the Office of Integrated Analysis and Forecasting, Energy Information Administration. General questions concerning the content of this report may be directed to the National Energy Information Center at 202/586-8800.

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Title XVI, Section 1605(a) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (enacted October 24, 1992) provides:

Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary, through the Energy Information Administration, shall develop, based on data available

to, and obtained by, the Energy Information Administration, an inventory of the national aggregate emissions of each greenhouse gas for each calendar year of the baseline period of 1987 through 1990. The Administrator of the Energy Information Administration shall annually update and analyze such inventory using available data. This subsection does not provide any new data collection authority.

The first report in this series, *Emissions of Greenhouse Gases 1985-1990*, was published in September 1993. This report—the fourteenth annual report—presents the Energy Information Administration's latest estimates of emissions for carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, and other greenhouse gases. Most of these estimates are based on activity data and applied emissions factors and not on measured or metered emissions. A limited number of emissions estimates, such as for methane from coal mine ventilation, are obtained through direct measurement.

For this report, data on coal and natural gas consumption and electricity sales and losses by sector were obtained from the Energy Information Administration's (EIA's) October 2006 *Monthly Energy Review*. Additional detailed information on petroleum consumption was obtained from unpublished material in support of the *Monthly Energy Review*. Electric power sector emissions were obtained from data underlying EIA's *Electric Power Annual*. In keeping with current international practice, this report presents data on greenhouse gas emissions in million metric tons carbon dioxide equivalent. The data can be converted to carbon equivalent units by multiplying times 12/44.

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Executive Summary

Overview

U.S. Anthropogenic Emissions of Greenhouse Gases, 1990-2005

	Carbon Dioxide Equivalent
Estimated 2005 Emissions (Million Metric Tons)	7,147.2
Change Compared to 2004 (Million Metric Tons)	42.7
Change from 2004 (Percent)	0.6%
Change Compared to 1990 (Million Metric Tons)	1,034.4
Change from 1990 (Percent)	16.9%
Average Annual Increase, 1990-2005 (Percent)	1.0%

This report, in accordance with Section 1605(a) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992, provides estimates of U.S. emissions of greenhouse gases.¹ Table ES1 shows trends in emissions of the principal greenhouse gases, measured in million metric tons of native gas. Throughout the remainder of the report, emissions are given in carbon dioxide equivalents, which put the emissions of each gas in comparable terms of their global warming potentials (GWPs) relative to that of carbon dioxide.² As shown in Table ES2, U.S. emissions of greenhouse gases in 2005 totaled 7,147.2 million metric tons carbon

dioxide equivalent (MMTCO₂e), 0.6 percent more than in 2004 (7,104.6 MMTCO₂e). The modest increase in total greenhouse gas emissions in 2005 is attributable mainly to below-average growth in emissions of carbon dioxide (0.3 percent). There were larger increases in emissions of nitrous oxide (1.9 percent) and methane (0.9 percent), but collectively these two gases make up only about 14 percent of total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions. Emissions of high-GWP gases—hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), and sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆)—increased by 7.2 percent, but their share of the total is only 2.2 percent. The U.S. economy grew by 3.2 percent in 2005. Consequently, U.S. greenhouse gas intensity (greenhouse gas emissions per unit of real economic output) was 2.5 percent lower in 2005 than in 2004. From 1990 to 2005, U.S. greenhouse gas intensity declined by 25 percent, or by an average of 1.9 percent per year.

U.S. greenhouse gas emissions in 2005 were 17 percent higher than the 1990 emissions level of 6,112.8 MMTCO₂e—an average annual increase of 1.0 percent over the period. Since 1990, U.S. emissions have increased more slowly than the average annual growth in population (1.2 percent), primary energy consumption (1.1 percent), electric power generation (1.9 percent), or gross domestic product (3.0 percent). While the annual growth rate in carbon dioxide emissions since 1990 (1.2 percent) has closely tracked annual growth in population and energy consumption, the average annual rate of growth in total greenhouse gas emissions has been lower (1.0 percent) because of reductions in methane emissions and relatively slow annual growth in nitrous oxide emissions (0.6 percent) since 1990.

Table ES1. Summary of Estimated U.S. Emissions of Greenhouse Gases, 1990, 1995, and 1998-2005
(Million Metric Tons of Gas)

Gas	1990	1995	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	P2005
Carbon Dioxide	4,990.6	5,308.5	5,594.0	5,673.9	5,853.4	5,767.0	5,814.7	5,875.3	5,988.7	6,008.6
Methane	30.5	29.2	27.4	26.8	26.6	26.0	26.1	26.2	26.4	26.6
Nitrous Oxide	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2
HFCs, PFCs, and SF ₆ . .	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M

P = preliminary data.

M = mixture of gases. These gases cannot be summed in native units. See Table ES2 for estimated totals in carbon dioxide equivalent.

Note: Data in this table are revised from the data contained in the previous EIA report, *Emissions of Greenhouse Gases in the United States 2004*, DOE/EIA-0573(2004) (Washington, DC, December 2005).

Source: EIA estimates presented in *Emissions of Greenhouse Gases in the United States 2005*, DOE/EIA-0573(2005) (Washington, DC, November 2006).

¹Most of the estimates in this report are based on activity data and estimated emissions factors, not on measured or metered emissions.

²See "Units for Measuring Greenhouse Gases" on page 2, and Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, *Climate Change 2001: The Scientific Basis* (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2001).

During 2005, approximately 83 percent of total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions consisted of carbon dioxide from the combustion and nonfuel use of fossil fuels (Figure ES1), such as coal, petroleum, and natural gas (after adjustments for U.S. Territories and international bunker fuels). U.S. emissions trends are driven largely by trends in fossil energy consumption. In recent years, national energy consumption, like emissions, has grown relatively slowly, with year-to-year deviations from trend growth caused by weather-related phenomena, fluctuations in business cycles, changes in the fuel mix for electric power generation, and developments in domestic and international energy markets.

Other 2005 U.S. greenhouse gas emissions include carbon dioxide from non-combustion sources (1.5 percent of total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions), methane (8.6 percent), nitrous oxide (5.1 percent), and other gases (2.2 percent). Methane and nitrous oxide emissions are caused by the biological decomposition of various waste streams and fertilizer; fugitive emissions from chemical processes; fossil fuel production, transmission, and combustion; and many smaller sources. The other gases include HFCs, used primarily as refrigerants; PFCs, released as fugitive emissions from aluminum smelting and used in semiconductor manufacture; and SF₆, used as an insulator in utility-scale electrical equipment.

Table ES2. U.S. Emissions of Greenhouse Gases, Based on Global Warming Potential, 1990, 1995, and 1998-2005
(Million Metric Tons Carbon Dioxide Equivalent)

Gas	1990	1995	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	P2005
Carbon Dioxide	4,990.6	5,308.5	5,594.0	5,673.9	5,853.4	5,767.0	5,814.7	5,875.3	5,988.7	6,008.6
Methane.	701.7	672.5	629.8	616.5	611.2	597.7	600.2	602.2	606.5	611.9
Nitrous Oxide.	333.5	357.7	348.8	346.8	342.8	337.9	333.6	332.9	359.9	366.6
HFCs, PFCs, and SF ₆ . .	87.1	94.9	134.3	133.9	138.0	128.5	137.8	136.6	149.5	160.2
Total	6,112.8	6,433.5	6,707.0	6,771.1	6,945.4	6,831.0	6,886.3	6,946.9	7,104.6	7,147.2

P = preliminary data.

Note: Data in this table are revised from the data contained in the previous EIA report, *Emissions of Greenhouse Gases in the United States 2004*, DOE/EIA-0573(2004) (Washington, DC, December 2005).

Sources: **Emissions:** Estimates presented in *Emissions of Greenhouse Gases in the United States 2005*, DOE/EIA-0573(2005) (Washington, DC, November 2006). **Global Warming Potentials:** Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, *Climate Change 2001: The Scientific Basis* (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2001), pp. 38 and 388-389.

Units for Measuring Greenhouse Gases

Emissions data are reported here in metric units, as favored by the international scientific community. Metric tons are relatively intuitive for users of English measurement units, because 1 metric ton is only about 10 percent heavier than 1 English short ton.

Table ES1 shows emissions of greenhouse gases in terms of the full molecular weights of the native gases. In Table ES2, and subsequently throughout this report, emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases are given in carbon dioxide equivalents. In the case of carbon dioxide, emissions denominated in the molecular weight of the gas or in carbon dioxide equivalents are the same. Carbon dioxide equivalent data can be converted to carbon equivalents by multiplying by 12/44.

Emissions of other greenhouse gases (such as methane) can also be measured in carbon dioxide equivalent units by multiplying their emissions (in metric tons) by their global warming potentials (GWPs). Carbon dioxide equivalents are the amount of carbon dioxide

by weight emitted into the atmosphere that would produce the same estimated radiative forcing as a given weight of another radiatively active gas.

Carbon dioxide equivalents are computed by multiplying the weight of the gas being measured (for example, methane) by its estimated GWP (which is 23 for methane). In 2001, the IPCC Working Group I released its Third Assessment Report, *Climate Change 2001: The Scientific Basis*. Among other things, the Third Assessment Report updated a number of the GWP estimates that appeared in the IPCC's Second Assessment Report. The GWPs published in the Third Assessment Report were used for the calculation of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions for this report. Generally, the level of total U.S. carbon dioxide equivalent emissions is 0.6 percent higher when the GWPs from the Third Assessment Report are used; however, the trends in growth of greenhouse gas emissions are similar for the two sets of GWP values. GWPs from the Second Assessment Report still are used for comparisons among countries.

^aIntergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, *Climate Change 2001: The Scientific Basis* (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2001).

^bIntergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, *Climate Change 1995: The Science of Climate Change* (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 1996).

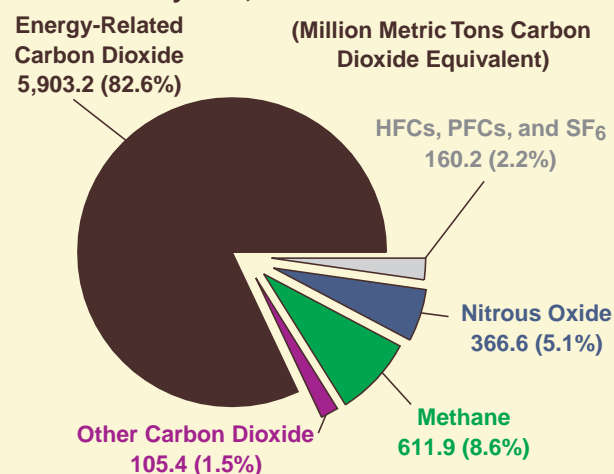
Carbon Dioxide

The preliminary estimate of U.S. carbon dioxide emissions from both energy consumption and industrial processes in 2005 is 6,008.6 million metric tons (MMT), which is 0.3 percent higher than in 2004 (5,988.7 MMT) and accounts for 84 percent of total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions (see Table ES3 for a breakdown of U.S. carbon dioxide emissions by source). U.S. carbon dioxide emissions have grown by an average of 1.2 percent annually since 1990. Although short-term changes in carbon dioxide emissions can result from temporary variations in weather, power generation fuel mixes, and the economy, growth in carbon dioxide emissions in the longer term results largely from population- and income-driven increases in energy use, as well as consumer choices of energy-using equipment. The “carbon intensity” of energy use (carbon dioxide emissions per unit of energy consumed) can also influence the trend of growth in energy-related carbon dioxide emissions.

Figure ES2 shows recent trends in some common indexes used to measure the carbon intensity of the U.S.

economy. Carbon dioxide emissions per unit of gross domestic product (GDP) have continued to fall relative to 1990; by 2005, this measure was 23 percent lower than

Figure ES1. U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Gas, 2005



Source: Tables ES2 and ES3.

Table ES3. U.S. Carbon Dioxide Emissions from Energy and Industry, 1990, 1995, and 1998-2005
(Million Metric Tons Carbon Dioxide)

Fuel Type or Process	1990	1995	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	P2005
Energy Use by Sector										
Residential	953.7	1,030.7	1,088.1	1,111.3	1,171.9	1,161.1	1,186.4	1,214.0	1,213.9	1,253.8
Commercial	780.7	841.1	935.7	947.7	1,006.4	1,014.2	1,009.4	1,020.3	1,034.1	1,050.6
Industrial	1,683.6	1,728.6	1,782.3	1,770.5	1,778.0	1,702.8	1,684.8	1,688.0	1,736.0	1,682.3
Transportation	1,566.8	1,665.3	1,761.8	1,810.0	1,854.0	1,831.7	1,871.7	1,878.2	1,939.2	1,958.6
Energy Subtotal	4,984.8	5,265.8	5,567.8	5,639.5	5,810.2	5,709.8	5,752.2	5,800.5	5,923.2	5,945.3
Nonfuel Use Emissions^a	98.1	104.7	118.6	124.1	110.0	104.9	105.4	103.5	111.7	106.4
Nonfuel Use Sequestration	251.2	286.4	314.7	325.8	308.1	293.7	293.8	289.5	311.1	300.9
Adjustments to Energy										
U.S. Territories (+)	31.1	38.2	41.0	40.4	42.2	53.6	52.3	56.8	60.0	58.6
Military Bunker Fuels (-)	13.6	8.9	10.0	9.8	7.8	8.2	8.1	9.2	10.1	10.1
International Bunker Fuels (-)	100.1	91.9	104.9	97.4	93.5	89.6	81.2	75.0	90.1	90.6
<i>Bunker Fuels Subtotal (-)</i>	<i>113.7</i>	<i>100.8</i>	<i>114.9</i>	<i>107.2</i>	<i>101.3</i>	<i>97.8</i>	<i>89.3</i>	<i>84.2</i>	<i>100.2</i>	<i>100.7</i>
Total Energy Adjustments	-82.6	-62.6	-73.9	-66.8	-59.1	-44.1	-37.0	-27.5	-40.2	-42.1
Adjusted Energy Subtotal	4,902.3	5,203.2	5,494.0	5,572.7	5,751.1	5,665.7	5,715.2	5,773.0	5,883.0	5,903.2
Other Sources										
Natural Gas Flaring	9.1	17.2	6.2	6.7	5.5	5.9	6.0	5.9	5.9	5.9
Carbon Dioxide in Natural Gas	14.0	16.7	18.0	17.8	18.2	18.6	17.9	18.1	17.8	17.3
Cement Production	33.3	36.9	39.3	40.1	41.3	41.5	43.0	43.2	45.7	45.9
Other Industrial	26.8	28.4	29.7	29.3	29.4	27.4	26.4	27.6	28.5	28.1
Waste Combustion	5.1	6.2	6.9	7.2	7.9	8.0	6.2	7.5	7.7	8.3
Total Other Sources	88.3	105.3	100.1	101.2	102.3	101.3	99.5	102.3	105.7	105.4
Total	4,990.6	5,308.5	5,594.0	5,673.9	5,853.4	5,767.0	5,814.7	5,875.3	5,988.7	6,008.6

^aEmissions from nonfuel use are included in the sectoral totals above.

P = preliminary data.

Notes: Data in this table are revised from the data contained in the previous EIA report, *Emissions of Greenhouse Gases in the United States 2004*, DOE/EIA-0573(2004) (Washington, DC, December 2005). Totals may not equal sum of components due to independent rounding. Adjusted energy total includes U.S. Territories.

Source: EIA estimates presented in *Emissions of Greenhouse Gases in the United States 2005*, DOE/EIA-0573(2005) (Washington, DC, November 2006).

in 1990. Carbon dioxide emissions per capita, however, were 1.0 percent above 1990 levels in 2005. Population growth and other factors resulted in increased aggregate carbon dioxide emissions per year from 1990 through 2005 (a total increase of 20 percent). Carbon dioxide emissions per unit of net electricity generation in 2005 were 0.4 percent higher than in 2004.

Energy Consumption

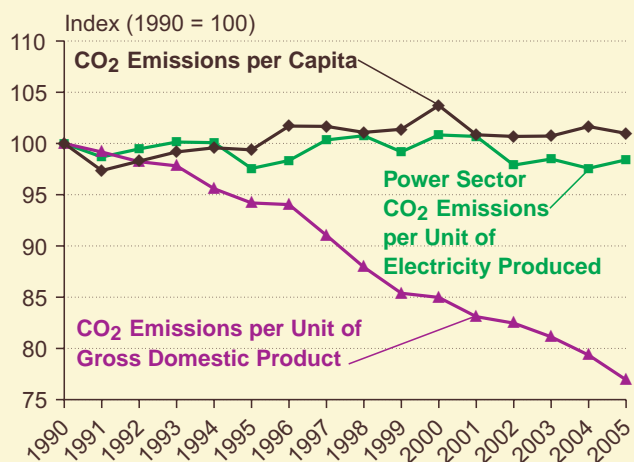
The consumption of energy in the form of fossil fuel combustion is the largest single contributor to anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions in the United States and the world. Of total 2005 U.S. carbon dioxide emissions (adjusting for U.S. Territories and bunker fuels), 98 percent, or 5,903.2 MMT, resulted from the combustion of fossil fuels—0.3 percent more than in 2004.

The Energy Information Administration (EIA) divides energy consumption into four general end-use categories: residential, commercial, industrial, and transportation. Emissions from electricity generators, which provide electricity to the end-use sectors, are allocated in proportion to the electricity consumed in, and losses allocated to, each sector. Figure ES3 illustrates trends in carbon dioxide emissions by energy consumption sector. Average annual growth rates in carbon dioxide emissions by sector during the 1990-2005 period were 2.0 percent for the commercial sector, 1.8 percent for the residential sector, and 1.5 percent for the transportation sector. For the industrial sector, carbon dioxide emissions have grown in some years and fallen in others; industrial emissions in 2005 were slightly below their 1990 level.

Carbon dioxide emissions from the transportation sector are the largest source of energy-related carbon dioxide emissions. At 1,958.6 MMT, the transportation sector accounted for 33 percent of total U.S. energy-related carbon dioxide emissions in 2005. Transportation sector emissions increased by 1.0 percent in 2005 relative to the 2004 level of 1,939.2 MMT. Almost all (98 percent) of transportation sector carbon dioxide emissions result from the consumption of petroleum products: motor gasoline, 1,170.5 MMT (60 percent of total transportation sector emissions in 2005); middle distillates (diesel fuel), 434.1 MMT (22 percent); jet fuel, 243.8 MMT (12 percent); and residual oil (heavy fuel oil, largely for maritime use), 64.1 MMT (3.1 percent). The growth in transportation-related carbon dioxide emissions in 2005 included increases in emissions from the use of jet fuel (6.5 MMT), residual fuel oil (6.4 MMT), and diesel fuel (4.5 MMT).

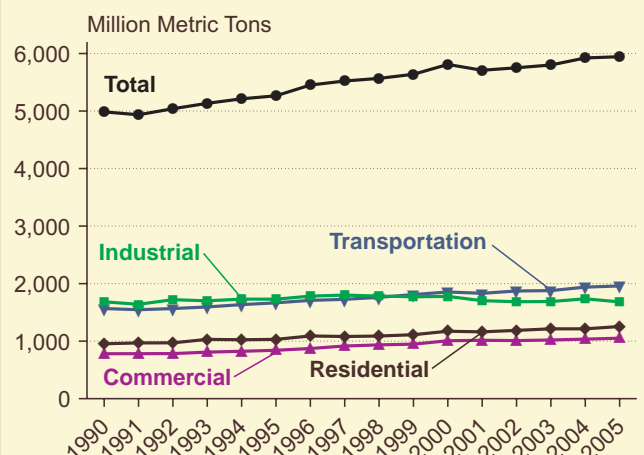
Industrial sector carbon dioxide emissions, at 1,682.3 MMT, accounted for 28 percent of total U.S. energy-related carbon dioxide emissions in 2005. The 2005 emissions level represents a 3.1-percent decrease from 2004 emissions of 1,736.0 MMT. Although industrial production rose by 3.2 percent in 2005, total industrial emissions fell, because three of the most energy-intensive industries experienced downturns in 2005: primary metals (down 2.7 percent), chemicals (down 6.9 percent), and petroleum (down 7.5 percent). In terms of fuel shares, electricity consumption was responsible for 39 percent of total industrial sector carbon dioxide emissions (662.8 MMT), natural gas for 24 percent (399.7 MMT), petroleum for 26 percent (431.2 MMT), and coal for 11 percent (184.5 MMT). Carbon dioxide emissions attributable to industrial sector energy consumption in 2005 were 0.1 percent (1.3 MMT) lower than in 1990.

Figure ES2. Carbon Dioxide Emissions Intensity of U.S. Gross Domestic Product, Population, and Electricity Production, 1990-2005



Source: EIA estimates presented in *Emissions of Greenhouse Gases in the United States 2005*, DOE/EIA-0573 (2005) (Washington, DC, November 2006).

Figure ES3. U.S. Carbon Dioxide Emissions from Energy Use by Sector, 1990-2005



Note: Sectoral emissions include both direct emissions and emissions attributable to purchased electricity.

Source: EIA estimates presented in *Emissions of Greenhouse Gases in the United States 2005*, DOE/EIA-0573 (2005) (Washington, DC, November 2006).

At 1,253.8 MMT, residential carbon dioxide emissions represented 21 percent of U.S. energy-related carbon dioxide emissions in 2005. The 2005 residential emissions were 3.3 percent higher than the 2004 level of 1,213.9 MMT. The residential sector's pro-rated share of electric power sector carbon dioxide emissions, 885.7 MMT, accounted for more than two-thirds of all emissions in the residential sector.³ Natural gas accounted for 21 percent (261.7 MMT) and petroleum (mainly distillate fuel oil) represented 8.4 percent (105.3 MMT). Since 1990, when residential sector carbon dioxide emission totaled 953.7 MMT, the growth in residential carbon dioxide emissions has averaged 1.8 percent per year.

Commercial sector carbon dioxide emissions accounted for about 18 percent of total energy-related carbon dioxide emissions in 2005, at 1,050.6 MMT, of which 78 percent (821.1 MMT) was the sector's pro-rated share of electricity-related emissions. Natural gas contributed 16 percent (166.3 MMT) and petroleum 5.3 percent (55.4 MMT). Commercial sector carbon dioxide emissions increased by 1.6 percent from the 2004 level of 1,034.1 MMT. Since 1990, carbon dioxide emissions in the commercial sector have increased on average by 2.0 percent per year, the largest growth of any end-use sector. Commercial sector carbon dioxide emissions have risen by 269.9 MMT since 1990, accounting for 28 percent of the total increase in U.S. energy-related carbon dioxide emissions.

Carbon dioxide emissions from the U.S. electric power sector increased by 2.8 percent (65.6 MMT), from 2,309.4 MMT in 2004 to 2,375.0 MMT in 2005. Carbon dioxide emissions from the electric power sector have grown by 32 percent since 1990, while total carbon dioxide emissions from all energy-related sources have grown by 19 percent. Carbon dioxide emissions from the electric power sector represented 40 percent of total U.S. energy-related carbon dioxide emissions in 2005; however, as noted above, in calculating emissions from the end-use sectors EIA distributes electric power sector emissions to the four sectors in proportion to their respective shares of total electricity purchases. Therefore, electric power emissions are already included in the sectoral totals. By fuel, emissions from natural-gas-fired generation increased by 7.7 percent, emissions from coal-fired generation increased by 2.1 percent, and emissions from petroleum-fired generation increased by 2.3 percent in 2005 from their 2004 levels (see box on page 6 for allocation of all greenhouse gases to EIA's end-use sectors).

³Sectoral (residential, commercial, and industrial) energy-related carbon dioxide emissions include the share of total electric power sector carbon dioxide emissions that can be attributed to each end-use sector. The share is based on the percentage of total electricity sales purchased by the sector and losses attributed to the sector. (For values used to calculate sectoral shares, see Energy Information Administration, *Monthly Energy Review*, DOE/EIA-0035, Tables 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, and 2.5, web site www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/mer/consump.html.) All carbon dioxide emissions associated with industrial or commercial enterprises whose primary business is not the production of electricity are allocated to the sectors in which they occur.

Nonfuel Uses of Energy Inputs

Nonfuel uses of fossil fuels, principally petroleum, both emit carbon dioxide and sequester carbon over their life cycles. In 2005, nonfuel uses of fossil fuels resulted in emissions of 106.4 MMT carbon dioxide, a 4.7-percent decrease from the 2004 level of 111.7 MMT. Emissions from nonfuel uses of energy fuels are included in the unadjusted energy consumption sub-totals in Table ES3.

On the sequestration side of the ledger, nonfuel uses of fossil fuels also resulted in carbon sequestration equal to 300.9 MMTCO₂e in 2005, a 3.3-percent decrease from the 2004 level of 311.1 MMTCO₂e. The major fossil fuel products that emit and sequester carbon include liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) and feedstocks for plastics and other petrochemicals. Asphalt and road oils are a major source of sequestration, but they do not emit carbon dioxide. It is estimated that, of the amount of carbon sequestered in the form of plastic, about 11.1 MMTCO₂e was emitted as carbon dioxide from the burning of the plastic components of municipal solid waste to produce electricity in 2005. The 2004 estimate of 19.4 MMTCO₂e is used in this report as an estimate for total 2005 emissions of carbon dioxide from the burning of wastes. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates total emissions from waste burning, and its 2005 value was not available at the time this report was published.

Adjustments to Energy Consumption

Total U.S. carbon dioxide emissions and the estimates of energy consumption on which they are based correspond to EIA's coverage of energy consumption, including the 50 States and the District of Columbia. Under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), however, the United States is also responsible for counting emissions emanating from its Territories, and their emissions are added to the U.S. total. Conversely, because the IPCC definition of energy consumption excludes international bunker fuels from the statistics of all countries, emissions from international bunker fuels are subtracted from the U.S. total. Military bunker fuels are also subtracted, because they are also excluded by the IPCC from national emissions totals. On net, these adjustments resulted in the subtraction of 42.1 MMT from total U.S. carbon dioxide emissions related to energy consumption (5,945.3 MMT), resulting in an adjusted total of 5,903.2 MMT for

Greenhouse Gas Emissions in the U.S. Economy

The diagram on page 7 illustrates the flow of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions in 2005, from their sources to their distribution across the U.S. end-use sectors. The left side shows gases and quantities; the right side shows their distribution by sector. The center of the diagram indicates the split between emissions from direct fuel combustion and electricity conversion in the power sector. Adjustments indicated at the top of the diagram for U.S. territories and international bunker fuels correspond to greenhouse gas reporting requirements developed by the UNFCCC.

CO₂. CO₂ emission sources include energy-related emissions (primarily from fossil fuel combustion) and emissions from industrial processes. The energy subtotal (5,945 MMTCO₂e) includes petroleum, coal, and natural gas consumption and smaller amounts from renewable sources, including municipal solid waste and geothermal power generation. The energy subtotal also includes emissions from nonfuel uses of fossil fuels, mainly as inputs to other products. Industrial process emissions (105 MMTCO₂e) include cement manufacture, limestone and dolomite calcination, soda ash manufacture and consumption, carbon dioxide manufacture, and aluminum production. The sum of the energy subtotal and industrial processes equals unadjusted CO₂ emissions (6,051 MMTCO₂e). The energy component of unadjusted emissions can be divided into direct fuel use (3,570 MMTCO₂e) and fuel converted to electricity (2,375 MMTCO₂e).

Non-CO₂ Gases. Methane (612 MMTCO₂e) and nitrous oxide (367 MMTCO₂e) sources include emissions related to energy, agriculture, waste management, and industrial processes. Other gases (160 MMTCO₂e) include HFCs, PFCs, and SF₆. These gases have a variety of uses in the U.S. economy, including refrigerants, insulators, solvents, and aerosols; as etching, cleaning, and firefighting agents; and as cover gases in various manufacturing processes.

Adjustments. In keeping with the UNFCCC, CO₂ emissions from U.S. Territories (59 MMTCO₂e) are added to the U.S. total, and CO₂ emissions from fuels used for international transport (both oceangoing vessels and airplanes) (101 MMTCO₂e) are subtracted to derive total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions (7,147 MMTCO₂e).

Emissions by End-Use Sector. CO₂ emissions by end-use sectors are based on EIA's estimates of energy consumption (direct fuel use and purchased electricity) by sector and on the attribution of industrial process

emissions by sector. CO₂ emissions from purchased electricity are allocated to the end-use sectors based on their shares of total electricity sales. Non-CO₂ gases are allocated by direct emissions in those sectors plus emissions in the electric power sector that can be attributed to the end-use sectors based on electricity sales.

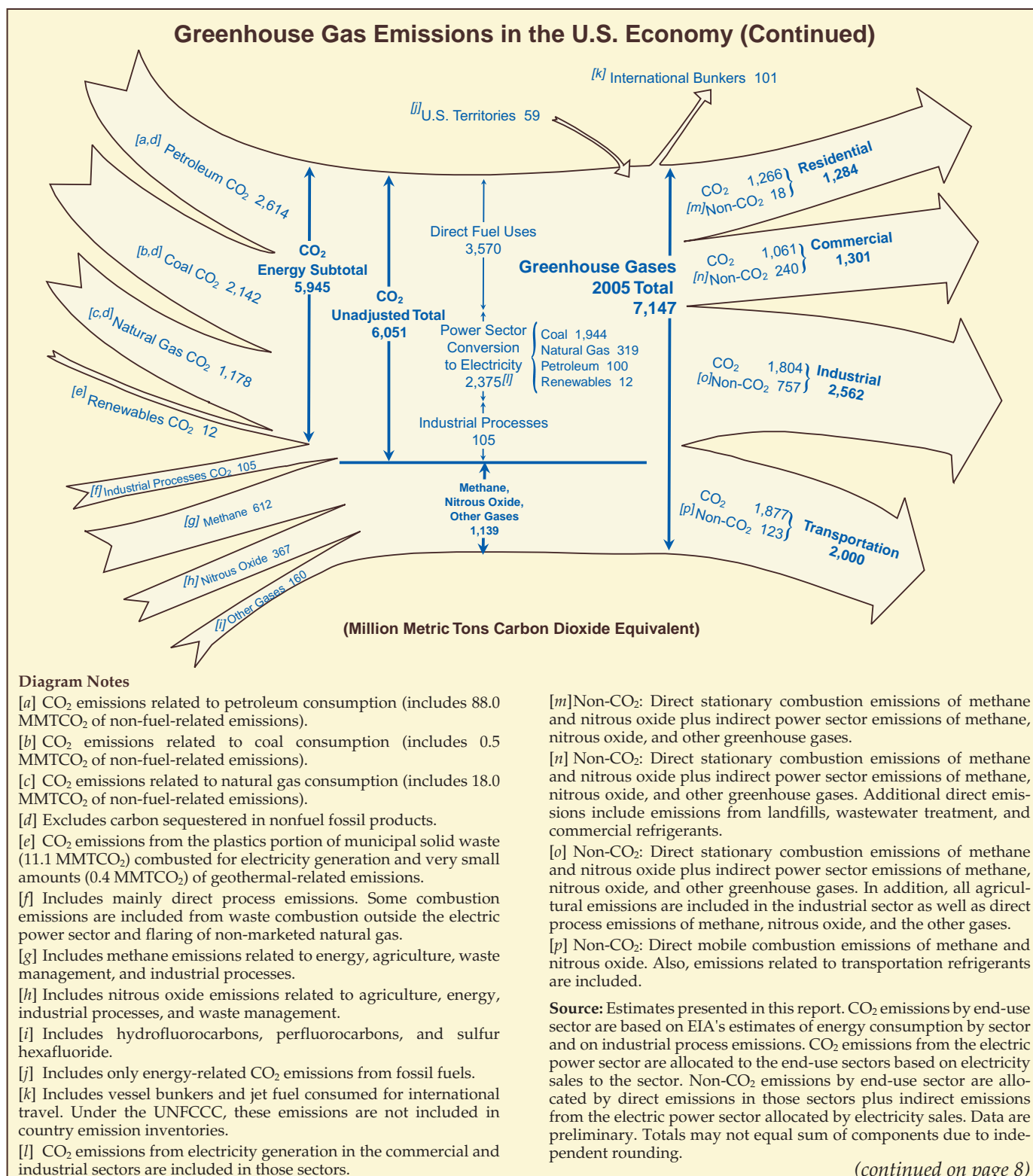
Residential emissions (1,284 MMTCO₂e) include energy-related CO₂ emissions (1,266 MMTCO₂e); and non-CO₂ emissions (18 MMTCO₂e). The non-CO₂ sources include direct methane and nitrous oxide emissions from direct fuel use. Non-CO₂ indirect emissions attributable to purchased electricity, including methane and nitrous oxide emissions from electric power generation and SF₆ emissions related to electricity transmission and distribution, are also included.

Emissions in the commercial sector (1,301 MMTCO₂e) include both energy-related CO₂ emissions (1,061 MMTCO₂e) and non-CO₂ emissions (240 MMTCO₂e). The non-CO₂ emissions include direct emissions from landfills, wastewater treatment plants, commercial refrigerants, and stationary combustion emissions of methane and nitrous oxide. Non-CO₂ indirect emissions attributable to purchased electricity, including methane and nitrous oxide emissions from electric power generation and SF₆ emissions related to electricity transmission and distribution, are also included.

Industrial emissions (2,562 MMTCO₂e) include CO₂ emissions (1,804 MMTCO₂e)—which can be broken down between combustion (1,699 MMTCO₂e) and process emissions (105 MMTCO₂e)—and non-CO₂ emissions (757 MMTCO₂e). The non-CO₂ direct emissions include emissions from agriculture (methane and nitrous oxide), coal mines (methane), petroleum and natural gas pipelines (methane), industrial process emissions (methane, nitrous oxide, HFCs, PFCs and SF₆), and direct stationary combustion emissions of methane and nitrous oxide. Non-CO₂ indirect emissions attributable to purchased electricity, including methane and nitrous oxide emissions from electric power generation and SF₆ emissions related to electricity transmission and distribution, are also included.

Transportation emissions (2,000 MMTCO₂e) include energy-related CO₂ emissions from mobile source combustion (1,877 MMTCO₂e); and non-CO₂ emissions (123 MMTCO₂e). The non-CO₂ emissions include methane and nitrous oxide emissions from mobile source combustion and HFC emissions from the use of refrigerants for mobile source air-conditioning units.

(continued on page 7)



energy-related carbon dioxide emissions in 2005 (Table ES3).

Energy-related carbon dioxide emissions for the U.S. Territories are added as an adjustment, in keeping with IPCC guidelines for national emissions inventories. The Territories included are Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin

Islands, American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Pacific Islands, and Wake Island. Most of these emissions are from petroleum products; however, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands consume coal in addition to petroleum products. Total energy-related carbon dioxide emissions from the U.S. Territories in 2005 are estimated at 58.6 MMT (Table ES3).

Greenhouse Gas Emissions in the U.S. Economy (Continued)					
Distribution of Total U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions by End-Use Sector, 2005					
Greenhouse Gas and Source	Sector				
	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Transportation	Total
Million Metric Tons Carbon Dioxide Equivalent					
Carbon Dioxide					
Energy-Related	1,266.1	1,060.9	1,699.0	1,877.2	5,903.2
Industrial Processes	—	—	105.4	—	105.4
Total CO₂	1,266.1	1,060.9	1,804.4	1,877.2	6,008.6
Methane					
Energy					
Coal Mining	—	—	65.5	—	65.5
Natural Gas Systems	—	—	154.0	—	154.0
Petroleum Systems	—	—	21.1	—	21.1
Stationary Combustion	8.8	0.1	0.5	—	9.4
Stationary Combustion: Electricity	0.1	0.1	0.1	—	0.3
Mobile Sources	—	—	—	4.5	4.5
Waste Management					
Landfills	—	155.7	—	—	155.7
Wastewater Treatment	—	15.8	—	—	15.8
Industrial Processes	—	—	2.5	—	2.5
Agricultural Sources					
Enteric Fermentation	—	—	115.6	—	115.6
Animal Waste	—	—	55.3	—	55.3
Rice Cultivation	—	—	10.9	—	10.9
Crop Residue Burning	—	—	1.2	—	1.2
Total Methane	8.9	171.7	426.8	4.5	611.9
Nitrous Oxide					
Agriculture					
Nitrogen Fertilization of Soils	—	—	218.1	—	218.1
Solid Waste of Animals	—	—	61.2	—	61.2
Crop Residue Burning	—	—	0.6	—	0.6
Energy Use					
Mobile Combustion	—	—	—	52.6	52.6
Stationary Combustion	0.9	0.4	4.2	—	5.4
Stationary Combustion: Electricity	3.4	3.2	2.6	—	9.2
Industrial Sources	—	—	13.2	—	13.2
Waste Management					
Human Sewage in Wastewater	—	5.8	—	—	5.8
Waste Combustion	—	—	—	—	0.0
Waste Combustion: Electricity	0.1	0.1	0.1	—	0.3
Total Nitrous Oxide	4.5	9.5	300.0	52.6	366.5
Hydrofluorocarbons					
HFC-23	—	—	17.3	—	17.3
HFC-32	—	0.4	—	—	0.4
HFC-125	—	22.1	—	—	22.1
HFC-134a	—	—	—	66.1	66.1
HFC-143a	—	23.0	—	—	23.0
HFC-236fa	—	2.9	—	—	2.9
Total HFCs	0.0	48.4	17.3	66.1	131.8
Perfluorocarbons					
CF ₄	—	—	3.2	—	3.2
C ₂ F ₆	—	—	3.0	—	3.0
NF ₃ , C ₃ F ₈ , and C ₄ F ₈	—	—	0.5	—	0.5
Total PFCs	0.0	0.0	6.7	0.0	6.7
Other HFCs, PFCs/PFPEs	—	6.1	—	—	6.1
Sulfur Hexafluoride					
SF ₆ : Utility	4.6	4.2	3.4	—	12.3
SF ₆ : Other	—	—	3.4	—	3.4
Total SF₆	4.6	4.2	6.8	0.0	15.6
Total Non-CO₂	17.9	240.0	757.4	123.2	1,138.5
Total Emissions	1,284.0	1,301.0	2,561.8	2,000.3	7,147.2

In 2005, approximately 100.7 MMT carbon dioxide was emitted in total from international bunker fuels, including 90.6 MMT attributable to civilian consumption of bunker fuels and 10.1 MMT from military use.⁴ In Table ES3, total emissions from international bunker fuels are included as a negative adjustment to U.S. energy-related carbon dioxide emissions. Just over two-thirds of the carbon dioxide emissions associated with international bunker fuels comes from the combustion of jet fuels; residual and distillate fuels account for the other one-third, with most of that coming from residual fuel.

Other Carbon Dioxide Emissions

In addition to carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuel combustion and use, a total of 105.4 MMT was emitted from other sources in 2005 (Table ES3). Cement manufacture (45.9 MMT) and industrial sources (28.1 MMT) accounted for nearly three-fourths of the total carbon dioxide emissions from other sources. Energy sector components in the other emissions category included the stripping of carbon dioxide from natural gas (17.3 MMT) and natural gas flaring (5.9 MMT). An additional 8.3 MMT carbon dioxide is estimated to have been

released from the burning of wastes other than municipal solid waste in the electric power sector.

Methane

U.S. anthropogenic methane emissions totaled 611.9 MMTCO₂e⁵ (26.6 million metric tons of methane) in 2005, representing 8.6 percent of total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions. Methane emissions in 2005 were 0.9 percent (5.3 MMTCO₂e) higher than the 2004 level of 606.5 MMTCO₂e (Table ES4). The increase is attributable primarily to increases in methane emissions from landfills (6.9 MMTCO₂e) and, to a lesser extent, emissions associated with animal husbandry. Those increases were offset to some degree by a decrease in methane emissions from coal mines (1.8 MMTCO₂e) and a small decrease in emissions from the cultivation of crops. Despite the 0.9-percent increase in 2005, methane emissions still were 89.8 MMTCO₂e (13 percent) below their 1990 level of 701.7 MMTCO₂e.

Methane emissions come from four source categories, three major and one minor. The major sources are energy, agriculture, and waste management, and the

Table ES4. U.S. Methane Emissions from Anthropogenic Sources, 1990, 1995, and 1998-2005
(Million Metric Tons Carbon Dioxide Equivalent)

Source	1990	1995	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	P2005
Energy Sources										
Coal Mining	97.7	83.8	75.6	71.5	68.1	68.0	64.1	64.2	67.3	65.5
Natural Gas Systems	128.9	137.6	143.9	144.2	151.0	147.0	154.0	153.2	154.7	154.0
Petroleum Systems	29.9	26.9	25.5	24.0	23.8	23.7	23.5	23.3	22.3	21.1
Stationary Combustion	12.9	11.8	8.9	9.3	10.0	8.7	8.9	9.3	9.5	9.7
Mobile Sources	5.6	4.8	4.7	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.2	4.4	4.5
Total Energy Sources	275.0	264.9	258.6	253.7	257.5	251.9	255.0	254.1	258.3	254.9
Waste Management										
Landfills	237.3	204.9	170.9	162.4	155.4	147.8	146.7	148.7	148.8	155.7
Wastewater Treatment	13.2	14.2	14.7	14.8	15.0	15.2	15.3	15.5	15.6	15.8
Total Waste Management . . .	250.6	219.1	185.6	177.2	170.3	162.9	162.0	164.2	164.5	171.5
Agricultural Sources										
Enteric Fermentation	119.6	124.4	117.2	117.3	116.3	115.1	115.8	116.1	114.2	115.6
Animal Waste	43.5	49.9	53.6	52.7	52.8	53.3	53.7	54.2	54.7	55.3
Rice Cultivation	9.3	10.2	10.7	11.5	10.2	10.7	10.2	9.8	10.9	10.9
Crop Residue Burning	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.2	1.3	1.2
Total Agricultural Sources . .	173.4	185.4	182.6	182.5	180.4	180.3	180.7	181.3	181.1	183.0
Industrial Processes	2.7	3.0	3.1	3.1	2.9	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.5
Total	701.7	672.5	629.8	616.5	611.2	597.7	600.2	602.2	606.5	611.9

P = preliminary data.

Notes: Data in this table are revised from the data contained in the previous EIA report, *Emissions of Greenhouse Gases in the United States 2004*, DOE/EIA-0573(2004) (Washington, DC, December 2005). Totals may not equal sum of components due to independent rounding.

Sources: EIA estimates presented in *Emissions of Greenhouse Gases in the United States 2005*, DOE/EIA-0573 (2005) (Washington, DC, November 2006). Emissions calculations based on Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, *Greenhouse Gas Inventory Reference Manual: Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*, Vol. 3 (Paris, France, 1997), pp. 4.83-4.84, web site www.ipcc.ch/pub/guide.htm; and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, *Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks: 1990-2004*, EPA 430-R-06-002 (Washington, DC, April 2006), web site http://yosemite.epa.gov/oar/globalwarming.nsf/content/ResourceCenterPublicationsGHGEmissionsUS_EmissionsInventory2006.html.

⁴Data for 2005 military bunker fuels were not available at the time of publication. It should also be noted that only bunker fuels purchased in the United States are subject to adjustment.

⁵Based on an estimated GWP of 23 for methane.

minor source is industrial processes. The three major sources accounted for 42, 30, and 28 percent, respectively, of total 2005 U.S. emissions of methane. Trends in the major sources of anthropogenic methane emissions since 1990 are illustrated in Figure ES4.

Energy Sources

Total U.S. energy consumption fell by 0.3 percent from 2004 to 2005; and methane emissions from energy sources (coal mining, natural gas systems, petroleum systems, stationary combustion, and mobile source combustion) in 2005, at 254.9 MMTCO₂e, were 1.3 percent below the 2004 level of 258.3 MMTCO₂e. Methane emissions from energy sources have fallen by 7.3 percent since 1990.

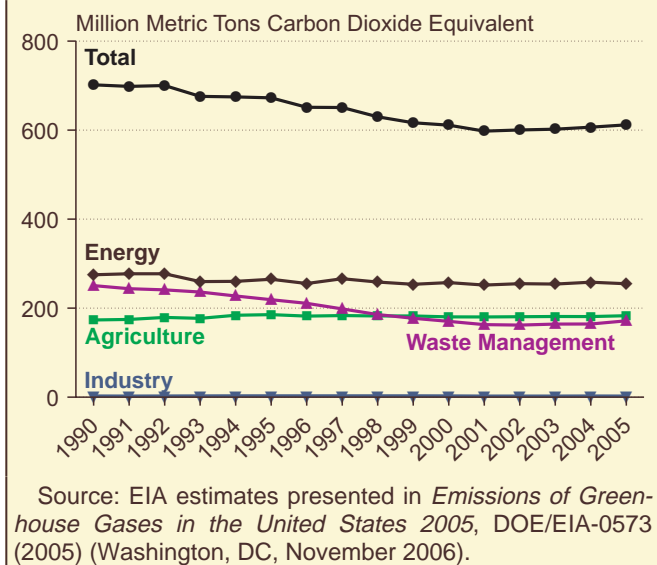
Agricultural Sources

Methane emissions from agricultural sources, at 183.0 MMTCO₂e, represented 30 percent of total U.S. anthropogenic methane emissions in 2005. Emissions increased by 1.0 percent (1.9 MMTCO₂e) in 2005 relative to 2004. Increases greater than 1 percent in emissions from enteric fermentation in domesticated animals and from animal waste were offset to some extent by decreases in emissions from rice cultivation and burning of crop residues. Of the total 2005 methane emissions from agricultural sources, 93 percent (170.9 MMTCO₂e) resulted from livestock management, of which 68 percent (115.6 MMTCO₂e) was from enteric fermentation and the remainder (55.3 MMTCO₂e) was from anaerobic decomposition of livestock wastes. Methane emissions from rice cultivation (10.9 MMTCO₂e) and crop residue burning (1.2 MMTCO₂e) together represented about 6.6 percent of total methane emissions from agricultural sources in 2005, which have increased by 5.5 percent since 1990.

Waste Management

Methane emissions from waste management, which at 171.5 MMTCO₂e accounted for 28 percent of U.S. anthropogenic methane emissions in 2005, were 4.3 percent above the 2004 level of 164.5 MMTCO₂e. Landfills—the largest single source of U.S. anthropogenic methane emissions—represented 91 percent (155.7 MMTCO₂e) of total U.S. methane emissions from waste management in 2005. The remainder of 2005 methane emissions from waste management (15.8 MMTCO₂e) was associated with domestic wastewater treatment. Methane emissions from waste management have fallen by 32 percent (79.1 MMTCO₂e) from their 1990 level of 250.6 MMTCO₂e, due largely to increased methane recovery at landfills, which increased to 122.5 MMTCO₂e in 2005 from 21.7 MMTCO₂e in 1990. Even at these higher methane recovery levels, however, waste management emissions, after bottoming out in 2002, increased in both 2004 and 2005.

Figure ES4. U.S. Emissions of Methane by Source, 1990-2005



Industrial Processes

Methane emissions from industrial processes totaled 2.5 MMTCO₂e in 2005, including 1.5 MMTCO₂e from chemical manufacturing and 1.0 MMTCO₂e from iron and steel production. The 2005 total was 7.7 percent below the 2004 total of 2.7 MMTCO₂e. Since 1990, growth in methane emissions from chemical production has been more than offset by reductions in emissions from iron and steel production, leaving the 2005 total for industrial process emissions 8.4 percent below the total for 1990.

Nitrous Oxide

Estimated U.S. anthropogenic emissions of nitrous oxide in 2005 totaled 366.6 MMTCO₂e, or 1.2 MMT nitrous oxide. Nitrous oxide emissions represented 5.1 percent of total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions in 2005 and were 1.9 percent (6.7 MMTCO₂e) above the 2004 level of 359.9 MMTCO₂e. Most of the increase from 2004 can be attributed to increased emissions from agricultural sources, which rose by 7.0 MMTCO₂e in 2005. Emissions from waste management contributed about 1 percent to the total growth from 2004 to 2005, whereas emissions from industrial sources were 5.3 percent lower in 2005 than in 2004 (Table ES5 and Figure ES5).

Agriculture

Agricultural sources, at 279.9 MMTCO₂e, accounted for 76 percent of total U.S. nitrous oxide emissions in 2005. Agricultural emissions in 2005 were 2.6 percent above the 2004 total of 272.9 MMTCO₂e, primarily as the result of an increase of 2.9 percent (6.2 MMTCO₂e) in emissions from the nitrogen fertilization of agricultural soils. Emissions from nitrogen fertilization, at 218.1

MMTCO₂e, accounted for 60 percent of nitrous oxide emissions from agriculture in 2005. Emissions from the solid waste of domesticated animals, at 61.2 MMTCO₂e, made up 22 percent of agricultural nitrous oxide emissions in 2005, and burning of crop residues produced another 0.6 MMTCO₂e. Total U.S. emissions of nitrous oxide from agriculture sources have increased by 12.3 percent since 1990.

Energy Use

U.S. nitrous oxide emissions associated with fossil fuel combustion in 2005 were 67.3 MMTCO₂e, or 18 percent of total nitrous oxide emissions. Most of the energy-related emissions of nitrous oxide in 2005 (78 percent or 52.6 MMTCO₂e) were from mobile sources, principally, motor vehicles equipped with catalytic converters. The remainder (22 percent or 14.7 MMTCO₂e) was from stationary source combustion of fossil fuels. Nitrous oxide emissions from energy sources have increased by 32 percent since 1990.

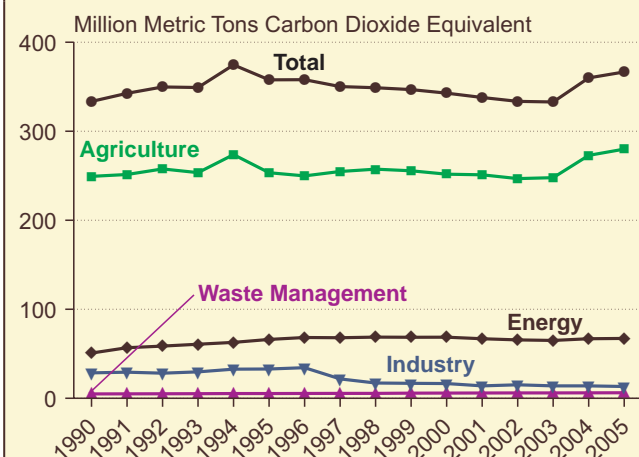
Industrial Processes and Waste Management

Industrial processes and waste management facilities were responsible for 3.6 percent and 1.6 percent, respectively, of total U.S. nitrous oxide emissions in 2005. Industrial process emissions in 2005 (13.2 MMTCO₂e) were 5.3 percent below the 2004 level of 14.0 MMTCO₂e. Industrial process emissions have fallen by 54 percent

since 1990 due to decreases in nitrous oxide emissions from the manufacture of adipic acid.

Nitrous oxide emissions from waste management facilities in 2005 (6.2 MMTCO₂e) increased by 1.1 percent from the 2004 level of 6.1 MMTCO₂e. Most of the 2005 emissions (5.8 MMTCO₂e) were from human sewage in wastewater and the remainder from waste combustion. Nitrous oxide emissions from waste management facilities have increased by 26 percent since 1990.

Figure ES5. U.S. Emissions of Nitrous Oxide by Source, 1990-2005



Source: EIA estimates presented in *Emissions of Greenhouse Gases in the United States 2005*, DOE/EIA-0573 (2005) (Washington, DC, November 2006).

Table ES5. Estimated U.S. Emissions of Nitrous Oxide, 1990, 1995, and 1998-2005
(Million Metric Tons Carbon Dioxide Equivalent)

Source	1990	1995	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	P2005
Agriculture										
Nitrogen Fertilization of Soils	186.9	187.3	194.0	192.7	189.4	189.1	185.1	186.6	211.9	218.1
Solid Waste of Domesticated Animals . .	61.9	65.6	62.8	62.3	61.8	61.4	61.1	60.7	60.3	61.2
Crop Residue Burning	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6
Subtotal	249.3	253.4	257.4	255.6	251.8	251.1	246.8	247.8	272.9	279.9
Energy Use										
Mobile Combustion	37.4	52.2	54.3	54.0	53.6	52.4	51.2	50.5	52.0	52.6
Stationary Combustion	13.3	13.9	14.4	14.6	15.0	14.5	14.3	14.5	14.8	14.7
Subtotal	50.8	66.1	68.7	68.6	68.6	66.9	65.6	65.0	66.9	67.3
Industrial Sources	28.6	32.9	17.2	16.8	16.6	14.0	15.2	14.0	14.0	13.2
Waste Management										
Human Sewage in Wastewater	4.6	5.1	5.3	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.7	5.7	5.8	5.8
Waste Combustion	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Subtotal	4.9	5.4	5.5	5.8	5.8	6.0	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.2
Total	333.5	357.7	348.8	346.8	342.8	337.9	333.6	332.9	359.9	366.6

P = preliminary data.

Notes: Data in this table are revised from the data contained in the previous EIA report, *Emissions of Greenhouse Gases in the United States 2004*, DOE/EIA-0573(2004) (Washington, DC, December 2005). Totals may not equal sum of components due to independent rounding.

Sources: EIA estimates presented in *Emissions of Greenhouse Gases in the United States 2005*, DOE/EIA-0573 (2005) (Washington, DC, November 2006). Emissions calculations based on Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, *Greenhouse Gas Inventory Reference Manual: Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*, Vol. 3 (Paris, France, 1997), pp. 4.81-4.94, web site www.ipcc.ch/pub/guide.htm; and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, *Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks: 1990-2004*, EPA 430-R-06-002 (Washington, DC, April 2006), web site http://yosemite.epa.gov/oar/globalwarming.nsf/content/ResourceCenterPublicationsGHGEmissionsUS_EmissionsInventory2006.html.

Other Gases: Hydrofluorocarbons, Perfluorocarbons, and Sulfur Hexafluoride

HFCs, PFCs, and SF₆ are three classes of high-GWP gases that accounted for 2.2 percent of total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions in 2005. At 160.2 MMTCO₂e, their emissions were 7.2 percent higher than in 2004 (149.5 MMTCO₂e). The increase in emissions of the high-GWP gases from 2004 to 2005 resulted largely from an 8.9-percent increase in HFC emissions, which more than offset decreases in emissions of PFCs (5.2 percent lower than in 2004) and SF₆ (2.1 percent lower) (Table ES6).

At 131.8 MMTCO₂e, emissions of HFCs made up the majority of U.S. emissions of high-GWP greenhouse gases, followed by SF₆ at 15.7 MMTCO₂e and PFCs at 6.7 MMTCO₂e. Another group of high-GWP gases, consisting of other HFCs, other PFCs, and perfluoropolyethers (PFPEs), includes HFC-152a, HFC-227ea, HFC-245fa, HFC-4310mee, and a variety of PFCs and PFPEs. They are grouped together in this report to protect confidential data. In 2005, their combined emissions totaled 6.1

MMTCO₂e. Emissions of the gases in this group in 2005 were 13 percent higher than in 2004 and an order of magnitude higher than in 1990, when they totaled less than 0.4 MMTCO₂e. Since 1990, HFC emissions from U.S. sources have increased by 265 percent, PFC emissions have fallen by 67 percent, and SF₆ emissions have fallen by 49 percent.

Emissions of the high-GWP gases specified in the Kyoto Protocol are very small (at most a few thousand metric tons). On the other hand, some of the gases (including PFCs and SF₆) have atmospheric lifetimes measured in the thousands of years, and consequently they are potent greenhouse gases with GWPs thousands of times higher than that of carbon dioxide per unit of molecular weight. Some of the commercially produced HFCs (134a, 152a, 4310mee, and 227ea), which are used as replacements for chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs), have shorter atmospheric lifetimes, ranging from 1 to 33 years.

Land-Use Change and Forestry

Forest lands in the United States are net absorbers of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, primarily as a result

Table ES6. U.S. Emissions of Hydrofluorocarbons, Perfluorocarbons, and Sulfur Hexafluoride, 1990, 1995, and 1998-2005
(Million Metric Tons Carbon Dioxide Equivalent)

Gas	1990	1995	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	P2005
Hydrofluorocarbons										
HFC-23	36.1	28.1	41.6	31.7	30.9	20.6	20.6	12.9	16.3	17.3
HFC-32	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4
HFC-125	0.0	4.4	10.7	12.1	13.6	14.9	16.3	17.9	19.8	22.1
HFC-134a	0.0	17.7	35.2	40.2	45.4	49.7	53.5	56.8	61.6	66.1
HFC-143a	0.0	0.9	5.9	7.5	9.3	11.4	13.8	16.5	19.5	23.0
HFC-236fa	0.0	0.0	0.6	1.3	2.0	2.6	3.2	3.5	3.5	2.9
Total HFCs	36.1	51.0	94.2	93.1	101.5	99.4	107.6	107.8	121.1	131.8
Perfluorocarbons										
CF ₄	14.6	10.0	8.4	8.3	8.4	3.8	5.0	3.8	3.2	3.2
C ₂ F ₆	5.4	5.4	5.8	5.8	4.9	3.3	3.8	3.3	3.4	3.0
NF ₃	*	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
C ₃ F ₈	*	*	*	*	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	*	*
C ₄ F ₈	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total PFCs	20.0	15.5	14.2	14.2	13.6	7.3	9.2	7.6	7.0	6.7
Other HFCs, PFCs/PFPEs	0.4	2.1	4.9	5.0	4.9	4.7	4.7	4.7	5.4	6.1
Sulfur Hexafluoride	30.7	26.3	21.0	21.6	18.1	17.1	16.3	16.4	16.0	15.7
Total Emissions	87.1	94.9	134.3	133.9	138.0	128.5	137.8	136.6	149.5	160.2

*Less than 50,000 metric tons carbon dioxide equivalent.

P = preliminary data.

Notes: Other HFCs, PFCs/PFPEs include HFC-152a, HFC-227ea, HFC-245fa, HFC-4310mee, and a variety of PFCs and perfluoropolyethers (PFPEs). They are grouped together to protect confidential data. Totals may not equal sum of components due to independent rounding.

Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Air and Radiation, web site www.epa.gov/globalwarming/ (preliminary estimates, September 2005).

of the reversal of the extensive deforestation that occurred in the United States during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Since then, millions of acres of formerly cultivated land have been abandoned and have returned to forest, with the regrowth of forests sequestering carbon on a large scale. The process is steadily diminishing, however, because the rate at which forests absorb carbon slows as the trees mature, and because the rate of reforestation has slowed.

The EPA estimates annual U.S. carbon sequestration from land-use change and forestry in 2004 at 780.1 MMTCO₂e,⁶ representing an offset of 11 percent of total 2004 U.S. greenhouse gas emissions (7,104.6 MMTCO₂e). In 1990, carbon sequestration attributable to land use and forestry was 910.4 MMTCO₂e, or 15 percent of total 1990 U.S. greenhouse gas emissions (6,112.8 MMTCO₂e).⁷ The EPA's 2004 estimates for carbon sequestration from land-use change and forestry include 637.2 MMTCO₂e from forested land, 88.0 MMTCO₂e from urban trees, 9.3 MMTCO₂e from landfilled yard trimmings and food scraps, and 45.6 MMTCO₂e from all other sources, including net emissions of 7.3 MMTCO₂e from grassland soil stocks (Table ES7).

Uncertainty in Emissions Estimates

The emissions numbers presented in this report are, for the most part, estimates based on estimated activity data and estimated emission factors. As such, they have an element of uncertainty, given that the activity data and emission factors on which the emission estimates are based also have a range of possible values. The activity data and emission factors can themselves be characterized by systematic biases and/or random errors. In 2000, EIA employed a Monte Carlo analysis to estimate the range of uncertainty, at a 95-percent confidence level, around estimated emissions of carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide (HFCs, PFCs, and SF₆ were not part of the analysis).⁸

The Monte Carlo simulations revealed that uncertainty varies by type of gas. There is less uncertainty around the simulated mean for carbon dioxide (-1.4 percent to +1.3 percent) than for methane (-15.6 percent to 16.0 percent) or nitrous oxide (-53.5 percent to +54.2 percent). The simulations also showed that the uncertainty around the simulated mean of total greenhouse gas

Table ES7. Net Carbon Dioxide Sequestration from U.S. Land-Use Change and Forestry, 1990 and 1998-2004

(Million Metric Tons Carbon Dioxide Equivalent)

Component	1990	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Forest Land Remaining Forest Land:								
Changes in Forest Carbon Stocks	773.4	618.8	637.9	631.0	634.0	634.6	635.8	637.2
Cropland Remaining Cropland:								
Changes in Agricultural Soil Carbon Stocks and Liming Emissions	33.1	24.6	24.6	26.1	27.8	27.5	28.7	28.9
Land Converted to Cropland:								
Changes in Agricultural Soil Carbon Stocks . . .	-1.5	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8
Grassland Remaining Grassland:								
Changes in Agricultural Soil Carbon Stocks . . .	4.5	-7.5	-7.5	-7.4	-7.4	-7.4	-7.3	-7.3
Land Converted to Grassland:								
Changes in Agricultural Soil Carbon Stocks . . .	17.6	21.1	21.1	21.1	21.1	21.1	21.1	21.1
Settlements Remaining Settlements	83.2	84.2	86.8	85.9	89.7	89.9	93.8	97.3
Urban Trees	58.7	73.3	77.0	77.0	80.7	80.7	84.3	88.0
Landfilled Yard Trimmings and Food Scraps . .	24.5	10.9	9.8	8.9	9.0	9.3	9.4	9.3
Total Net Flux	910.4	744.0	765.7	759.5	768.0	768.6	774.8	780.1

Note: Totals may not equal sum of components due to independent rounding.

Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, *Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks: 1990-2004*, EPA 430-R-06-002 (Washington, DC, April 2006), web site <http://yosemite.epa.gov/oar/globalwarming.nsf/content/ResourceCenterPublicationsGHGEmissionsUSEmissionsInventory2006.html>.

⁶U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, *Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks: 1990-2003*, EPA 430-R-05-003 (Washington, DC, April 2005), web site <http://yosemite.epa.gov/oar/globalwarming.nsf/content/ResourceCenterPublicationsGHGEmissionsUSEmissionsInventory2005.html>. Estimates for carbon sequestration in 2005 are not yet available.

⁷EIA does not include sequestration from land-use change and forestry as part of its annual emissions inventory.

⁸Energy Information Administration, *Documentation for Estimation of Greenhouse Gases in the United States 2004*, DOE/EIA-0638(2004) (Washington, DC, November 2006), Chapter 8, web site [www.eia.doe.gov/oiaf/1605/ggrpt/documentation/pdf/0638\(2004\).pdf](http://www.eia.doe.gov/oiaf/1605/ggrpt/documentation/pdf/0638(2004).pdf).

emissions (excluding HFCs, PFCs, and SF₆) is -4.4 percent to +4.6 percent.

The certainty of emissions data varies by category and by source. For example, methane emissions from existing underground coal mines are relatively certain. In general, however, the estimates for carbon dioxide emissions are more certain than the estimates for other gases. It is likely that the estimate of total U.S. carbon dioxide emissions is accurate to within 5 percent. For methane emissions, most of the estimates are much more uncertain, with a level of uncertainty that may exceed 30 percent. Estimates of methane emissions may also understate actual emissions as a result of the

exclusion of sources that are unknown or difficult to quantify. For example, EIA does not include sources such as abandoned coal mines and industrial wastewater. Nitrous oxide emissions estimates are much less certain than those for carbon dioxide or methane emissions, in part because nitrous oxide emissions have been studied far less than emissions of the other greenhouse gases and in part because the largest apparent sources of nitrous oxide emissions are area sources that result from biological activity, which makes for emissions that are highly variable and hard to measure or characterize. The uncertainty for nitrous oxide emissions may exceed 100 percent.